



BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)

Asia and Pacific – Preparedness and Mitigation Programs

Fact Sheet #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

September 30, 2008

BACKGROUND

Disasters including earthquakes, typhoons, floods, landslides, volcanoes, droughts, tsunamis, and wildfires affect populations throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Worsening socio-economic conditions of some populations are increasing the region's vulnerability. Demographic changes, urbanization, and environmental degradation have reduced the amount of habitable land available, forcing the settlement of hazard-prone, marginal lands, such as flood plains and steep slopes. In addition to natural disasters, civil crises and complex emergencies also cause hardships and impede development. USAID/OFDA is committed to assisting in the development of preparedness, mitigation, and emergency response capacities in the region. Since 1995, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$50 million for ongoing preparedness and mitigation projects throughout the Asia-Pacific region, including nearly \$4.4 million in FY 2008.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND MITIGATION ASSISTANCE FOR ASIA-PACIFIC

USAID/OFDA Assistance in FY 2008	\$4,391,526
USAID/OFDA Cumulative Assistance for all Active Programs	\$50,099,336

REGIONAL PROGRAMS

- Program for the Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER), Phase II: Funded by USAID/OFDA and implemented by the Kathmandu-based National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) since 2003, PEER is developing national and regional cadres of professional emergency response instructors in six Asian countries. PEER is geared primarily towards earthquake preparedness, but is widely applicable to any collapsed structure or mass casualty situation. PEER assists local, regional, and national disaster management agencies in organizing and conducting training in medical first response, collapsed structure search and rescue, and hospital preparedness for mass casualties. The first phase of PEER, managed by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), began in 1998 in India, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines. Phase II of PEER expanded activities to Bangladesh and Pakistan, as well as increasing the corps of trainers, adapting courses to national requirements, and creating a network of disaster responders in each country. Beginning in April 2009, Phase III of the program will focus on improving community-level preparedness in collapsed structure search and rescue, medical first response, and disaster planning and preparedness. USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$11 million since FY 1998.
- Program for Hydrometeorological Risk Mitigation in Asian Cities (PROMISE): In September 2005, USAID/OFDA provided a grant to ADPC for a three-year phase of urban disaster mitigation activities entitled "PROMISE." This program builds upon the activities of the Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program (AUDMP) in which ADPC developed pilot disaster preparedness projects in targeted Asian cities. PROMISE promotes hydrometeorological, or rainfall-related, disaster preparedness through demonstration projects in five rapidly growing urban areas that have been significantly impacted by hydrometeorological disasters: Chittagong, Bangladesh; Hyderabad, Pakistan; Dagupan City, the Philippines; Kalutara, Sri Lanka; and Da Nang, Vietnam. In FY 2007, PROMISE was expanded to include the city of Semarang in Indonesia. In the target cities, ADPC has facilitated preparedness and mitigation action planning workshops, carried out hazard mapping and vulnerability assessments, and established community-based early warning mechanisms. Additional programming included implementing training and capacity building for risk-based urban land use planning, piloting community-based flood forecasting and warning systems, developing city-level disaster management information systems and public awareness and advocacy campaigns, and assisting micro-credit enterprises to improve resistance of houses to disasters. USAID/OFDA funding since FY 2005 totals \$1,855,286.
- Pacific Islands Disaster Assistance Program (PDAP): USAID/OFDA has supported PDAP, implemented by The Asia Foundation (TAF), since 1995. The objectives of the program are to improve the capacity and performance of local and national disaster management agencies, develop and adapt training materials relevant to the region, and strengthen the capacity of South Pacific nations to organize and conduct disaster management courses. The Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu participated in the

first phase of the program, which helped to improve disaster management training in multiple South Pacific nations. From 2004 to 2008, Phase II expanded the program to include the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, which are currently transitioning from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to USAID for U.S. disaster assistance. The second phase also included the adaptation of USAID/OFDA-developed training materials for Pacific country applications. In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA provided \$94,943 to PDAP, and total funding to date is \$4,001,756.

- Asia Flood Network (AFN): AFN strengthens the capacity of regional and national hydrometeorological institutions in climate, weather, and hydrological forecasting while directly involving communities at risk in reducing vulnerability to hydrometeorological hazards. In collaboration with partners in Asia, AFN is jointly implemented by USAID/OFDA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Current activities are focused on Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam in the Mekong river basin and Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Pakistan in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Megna (GBM) basin. Under AFN, the Mekong River Commission (MRC), the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), and country representatives in the Mekong and GBM river basins were trained on the application of satellite-based rainfall estimates (SRE) to floods and droughts, flash flood guidance, and dissemination of information to vulnerable populations in remote areas. In addition, USAID/OFDA and NOAA are working with national and NGO partners to pilot the Radio and Internet for the Communication of Hydrometeorological and Climate Related Information (RANET) project in countries in Asia, including Indonesia. RANET provides access to and strengthens the use of hydrometeorological information by communities in day-to-day decision making to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards. Support for AFN will continue through September 2009. To date, USAID/OFDA has provided a total of \$2,579,927 for the program, including \$250,000 in FY 2008.
- Volcano Disaster Assistance Project (VDAP): The USAID/OFDA-funded VDAP program, implemented by USGS, provides technical assistance to national volcano monitoring organizations. In Asia, VDAP assists the Philippines Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHILVOLCS), the Center of Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation (CVGHM) in Indonesia, and the Port Moresby Geophysical Observatory and Rabaul Volcano Observatory in Papua New Guinea. VDAP assistance includes training in hazard assessment, development of early warning plans, and installation and updating of volcano monitoring equipment. Since FY 2005, VDAP has worked with CVGHM to improve volcano hazard monitoring and assessment through the construction of a regional volcano observatory for North Sulawesi. In FY 2008, a VDAP team continued to work with Indonesian experts to install new volcano monitoring equipment, and a VDAP consultant assisted PHILVOLCS in analyzing activity at the Bulusan volcano. VDAP also provided remotely-sensed data and equipment to counterpart observatories monitoring several volcanoes in Indonesia and the Philippines. In Asia, USAID/OFDA has provided a total of about \$3,725,000 to date to support VDAP, including \$300,000 in FY 2008.
- Managing the Psychosocial Aspects of Disasters and Complex Emergencies: USAID/OFDA is funding an ADPC project to examine disaster mental health and psychosocial resources that already contribute to the management and effective delivery of programs to disaster-affected populations in Asia. The program involves consultations between a team of psychosocial support and disaster mental health specialists and representatives from national health ministries, universities, U.N. agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and donors in Indonesia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. Total funding to date from USAID/OFDA is \$106,836.
- Disaster Needs and Damage Assessment Manual and Workshop: USAID/OFDA is assisting the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in developing a manual on disaster needs and damage assessment, adapting existing best practices to the Southeast Asian context. In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA staff facilitated a capacity-building workshop for ASEAN country focal points in the Philippines, the lead country for the initiative. In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA provided \$220,000 through USAID's Regional Development Mission in Asia to Nathan and Associates to implement the project.

SOUTH ASIA PROGRAMS

- Flood Management in the Himalayas: USAID/OFDA has supported technical assessments and forums for decision-makers and technical personnel from the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region to strengthen capacities on flash flood management, promote collaboration, and develop regional approaches to flood management, flood early warning systems, and broader transboundary water issues. ICIMOD, a regional organization based in Nepal, hosts forums that include participants from countries throughout the South Asia and Himalayan region. USAID/OFDA has provided \$269,000 to date for the program.

- Drought Preparedness in India and Pakistan: Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is implementing a three-year project which seeks to ensure that communities in Rajasthan, India, and Sindh, Pakistan, are drought resilient. The project targets 7,200 people in Sindh and 60,000 people in Rajasthan. Through this program, drought-vulnerable communities will be better able to harvest and store rainwater for increased domestic and agricultural use throughout the year, adopt water-efficient agricultural practices, utilize improved land-use techniques for agriculture and livestock, and engage with local government and other actors to improve resilience to drought. The project began in June 2006 and will continue through July 2009. USAID/OFDA has provided a total of \$600,000 to date.
- Private Sector Partnerships for Disaster Assistance in India: USAID/OFDA is supporting Project Concern International (PCI) to increase private sector participation in disaster mitigation, preparedness, and response in India, focusing on 20 districts in Bihar State, the poorest and most flood-prone state in India. Beginning in September 2008, the two year PCI project is training representatives from large private sector firms, universities, national and state government agencies, universities, and local NGOs in disaster risk management. In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA provided \$300,000 for the project at the end of FY 2008, and activities will begin in FY 2009.
- Emergency Flood Preparedness in Bangladesh: Save the Children/U.S., World Vision, and lead agency CARE joined to form the Emergency Working Group of Cooperative Sponsors (EWG) to improve emergency response to floods in Bangladesh. The EWG works to reduce the incidence of health problems associated with a disaster, particularly water-borne diseases. With USAID/OFDA support, the EWG promotes coordination between communities and local authorities and maintains and operates mobile water purification plants, zodiac boats, and a mobile health unit. In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA provided \$21,550 to support additional training in the use of the eleven mobile purification plants, as well as associated maintenance costs. Total USAID/OFDA funding to date for the project is \$424,663.
- Community Flood Monitoring and Forecasting in Bangladesh: Implemented by Riverside Technology Inc., this five-year USAID/OFDA project supports a community-based approach for flood monitoring and forecasting to reduce the vulnerability of communities living in flood plains and mitigate future flood damage in Bangladesh. The project began in September 2002 and continued through March 2008. USAID/OFDA provided \$576,977 to support this project.
- Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Risk Management Project: NSET coordinates the long-term earthquake risk reduction plan for the Kathmandu Valley and works with the Government of Nepal, NGOs, schools, and local communities to increase earthquake awareness and preparedness. The project began in September 2000 and will continue through August 2010. In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA provided \$429,516. USAID/OFDA funding to date totals \$1,413,705.
- Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Water Supply: USAID/OFDA is providing funding to the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) to support earthquake preparedness in Lalitpur, Bhaktapur, and Thimi municipalities in the Kathmandu Valley. The preparedness program includes upgrading existing water supply facilities for emergency operation, developing and disseminating preparedness information, and training local government and NGO personnel in nutrition, sanitation, hygiene, and the protection of children separated from family members. To date, USAID/OFDA has provided \$250,000 to the project.
- Seismic Hazard Training for Pakistan and Nepal: USAID/OFDA is supporting a training implemented by USGS in Kathmandu to train young Pakistani and Nepalese professionals to use freely available, state-of-the-art computer tools to assess earthquake hazards. The capacity building program will help Pakistan and Nepal develop a community of seismic hazard practitioners. Using the Open Seismic Hazards Analysis platform, workshop participants will acquire the skills necessary to develop earthquake hazard maps and assess potential impacts from future earthquakes on local earthquake faults. USAID/OFDA provided \$75,107 to support the training in FY 2008.

SOUTHEAST AND EAST ASIA PROGRAMS

- Promoting Private Sector Disaster Assistance in China: In FY 2007, USAID/OFDA supported TAF programming to enhance private sector participation in disaster assistance and to promote multi-sectoral approaches to disaster management. TAF is cooperating with Chinese business associations, the China Charity Federation, and the Government of China (GOC) Ministry of Civil Affairs (MOCA), which has a lead role in disaster management in China. The program will also involve American Chamber of Commerce in China. This project began in October 2006 and will continue to September 2010. The second phase of the program, which began in September 2008, will engage more Chinese businesses in disaster preparedness and management initiatives and expand preparedness activities to additional communities, including Chengdu city in earthquake-affected Sichuan Province. USAID/OFDA provided \$528,217 in FY 2008, and the total provided to date is \$1,118,217.

- Earthquake Recovery and Rural Housing Rehabilitation in Sichuan, China: USAID/OFDA is also supporting TAF to promote safe rehabilitation of rural shelters and to improve disaster preparedness and mitigation in schools and communities in earthquake-affected areas of Sichuan Province. The two-year program, to be implemented with MOCA, will benefit approximately 1.1 million individuals in affected areas. In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA provided \$1,200,000 for the program.
- Climate Forecast Applications: This project is a follow-up initiative to the USAID/OFDA-funded Extreme Climate Events (ECE) program, which was implemented from 1998 to 2003. The Climate Forecast Applications project, implemented by ADPC, strengthens the national capabilities of Indonesia and the Philippines to manage and reduce the impacts of climate fluctuations through targeted demonstration projects and community participation. The project makes climate forecasting information available to farmers and local communities, which utilize the data for planting and other decision making purposes. The second phase of the program began in April 2003 and was expanded to include East Timor in 2007. Total funding since FY 1998, including the ECE program, is \$2,703,276.
- Drought Preparedness in Southeast Asia: CARE, with USAID/OFDA support, is implementing drought preparedness activities in Cambodia, East Timor, and Vietnam. This program promotes community-based drought preparedness planning while also developing expertise in effective low-cost and innovative drought mitigation and preparedness technologies. The total provided by USAID/OFDA to date is \$1,200,000.
- Flood Early Warning in the Mekong River Basin: In January 2003, USAID/OFDA and MRC, an inter-governmental river basin organization based in Laos, began an innovative demonstration project to strengthen warnings to communities most at risk to floods. The project assists the most flood-vulnerable communities in Cambodia to develop appropriate flood information. In addition, the project develops tools, methods, and protocols—with the help of local implementing partners—to enable flood-vulnerable populations to effectively prepare and respond to flooding. The program began in January 2003 and ended in July 2008. USAID/OFDA has provided a total of \$1,250,000 in funding to date.
- Flood Proofing for Households in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam: In 2008, USAID/OFDA supported a regional workshop to facilitate technology transfer to neighboring provinces in Vietnam and Cambodia, as part of \$205,250 provided to the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) to from September 2005 through June 2008. The program assisted the flood proofing of homes in the poorest flood-prone villages in the Mekong Delta. The flood-proofing program was a follow-on to the USAID/OFDA-funded UNDP initiative to implement a comprehensive flood preparedness program in seven provinces of central Vietnam from June 2000 through December 2004. A coastal storm early warning system implemented by the Government of Vietnam with support from USAID/OFDA and UNDP helped mitigate the impact of storms such as Typhoon Damrey in September 2005, and Typhoon Durian in December 2006. Since FY 2001, USAID/OFDA funding for flood and storm preparedness in Vietnam, including flood early warning, coastal storm early warning, and flood proofing of households totals \$2,859,250.
- Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Response in Indonesia: International Medical Corps (IMC), with USAID/OFDA support, is promoting the technical, administrative, financial, and logistical capabilities of Ambulan 118, a leading Indonesian NGO, to respond rapidly and effectively to disasters in Indonesia. IMC is strengthening and expanding training in emergency relief best practices and creating a training-of-trainers program. In addition, Ambulan 118 and IMC have pre-positioned medical and non-medical equipment and supplies. Through this project, medical teams from Ambulan 118 and IMC provided emergency medical care during disasters including the March and September 2007 Sumatra earthquakes, the January 2007 Jakarta flooding, and the May 2006 Yogyakarta earthquake. This project began in September 2005 and will continue through March 2009. USAID/OFDA has provided a total of \$2,176,722 to date.
- Promoting Private Sector Role in Disaster Risk Reduction in Indonesia: Beginning in September 2008, Mercy Corps is implementing a two-year project with USAID/OFDA funding to better prepare communities, local governments, and private sector actors in West Sumatra and Bengkulu provinces to work together to mitigate and respond to natural disasters. The project will establish district-level working groups focusing on disaster preparedness, carry out participatory hazard mapping and preparedness surveys, and conduct activities to raise awareness in local schools and communities. USAID/OFDA provided \$300,000 for the project at the end of FY 2008, and activities will begin in FY 2009.
- Indonesia Mobile Water Treatment Units: In FY 2007, as part of ongoing disaster preparedness programming in Indonesia, USAID/OFDA provided six high-capacity mobile water treatment units to USAID implementing partners

for use in future humanitarian emergencies. USAID/OFDA provided an additional \$4,500 in FY 2008 for transport and storage costs. The total cost of the units, including transport was \$278,615.

- Conflict Preparedness Program in Mindanao, Philippines: Implemented by SC/Philippines, the first phase of this initiative supported disaster preparedness activities in response to new internal displacement and provided prompt humanitarian access to these populations in the conflict-affected areas of western Mindanao. The program supports an emergency response network of local NGOs and community-based groups to implement preparedness and relief activities, provide small grants to local NGOs, and create small stockpiles of locally procured relief items for emergencies. The second phase of this initiative supports returning internally displaced persons (IDPs) through livelihood interventions using seeds and tools, basic fishing equipment, and other assistance. The program also supports community activities to ensure sustainable potable water resources. USAID/OFDA has provided \$398,459 to support the project in FY 2008, and total funding to date is \$1,873,459.
- School-based and Community Awareness of Disaster Preparation in the Philippines: USAID/OFDA is also funding SC/Philippines to better engage schools, communities and local government units in disaster risk reduction activities in the Bicol Region, which is highly vulnerable to volcanoes and typhoons. In November 2006, Typhoon Durian severely affected the Bicol Region. SC/Philippines will train local government units and teachers in disaster preparedness, while conducting preparedness activities focused on children. The two-year program will continue through April 2010. In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA provided \$164,821 for this program.
- Avian Influenza Preparedness: USAID/OFDA has provided \$250,000 to the U.N. World Health Organization to support Avian Influenza (AI) containment activities in the region, pre-positioned 10,000 sets of personal protective equipment (PPE) in the countries most at risk, and provided funding to the American Red Cross (AmRC) to facilitate, in cooperation with host-country Red Cross societies, AI preparedness and response workshops in Cambodia and China. In FY 2007, USAID's Bureau of Global Health provided nearly \$1.4 million for AI preparedness programming in Asia via funding transferred from USAID/OFDA. USAID/OFDA is an active participant in USAID's AI Working Group, which works with other agencies involved in AI preparedness and response, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of State, and U.S. Department of Defense. In FY 2007, USAID/OFDA provided \$69,266 to transport PPEs to Bangladesh, Burma, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos. USAID/OFDA, as part of much larger U.S. Government AI preparedness efforts, has provided funding for WHO, AmRC, and the provision of PPEs since FY 2004 totaling \$690,716.
- Cholera and Shigella Workshops: USAID/OFDA has supported hands-on training on emergency response to cholera and shigella epidemics for health specialists worldwide. The International Center for Diarrheal Disease Research (ICDDR) in Bangladesh is conducting the training. Upon completion of the training, health workers develop an action plan for preparedness and response to epidemics for their respective organization. In addition, ICDDR developed an interactive CD on the Cholera Outbreak Training and Shigellosis program with funding from USAID/OFDA.

USAID/OFDA FY 2008 and Cumulative Preparedness and Mitigation Assistance for Asia-Pacific by Sector

<i>Project</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>FY 2008 Funding</i>	<i>Cumulative Funding for Ongoing Projects¹</i>
Asia Flood Network	Hydromet	\$250,000	\$2,579,927
AUDMP	Multi-Hazard		\$9,453,800
Avian Influenza Preparedness	Health		\$690,716
Bangladesh Emergency Flood Preparedness	Hydromet	\$21,550	\$424,663
Capacity Building for Flash Floods Management	Hydromet		\$269,000
Climate Forecast Applications	Hydromet	\$79,413	\$2,703,276
Disaster Needs Assessment Damage Workshop	Multi-Hazard	\$220,000	\$220,000
Drought Preparedness	Hydromet		\$1,200,000
Drought Preparedness in India and Pakistan	Hydromet		\$600,000
Earthquake Hazard Training for Pakistan and Nepal	Earthquake/Volcanoes	\$75,107	\$75,107
Earthquake Recovery and Preparedness in China	Multi-Hazard	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
Flood Forecasting in Bangladesh	Hydromet		\$576,977
Flood Proofing in Vietnam	Hydromet	\$25,000	\$205,250
Indonesia Preparedness through IMC/Ambulan 118	Health		\$2,176,722
Indonesia Water Treatment Units	Hydromet	\$4,500	\$278,615
Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Preparedness	Earthquake/Volcanoes	\$429,516	\$1,413,705
Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Water Supply	Earthquake/Volcanoes		\$250,000
Mekong River Basin Flood Early Warning	Hydromet		\$1,250,000
Pacific Island Nations Disaster Management Training Program	Multi-Hazard	\$94,943	\$4,001,756
PEER	Earthquake/Volcanoes, Multi-Hazard		\$11,086,203
Philippines Conflict Preparedness	Conflict	\$398,459	\$1,873,459
Private Sector Disaster Assistance in China	Multi-Hazard	\$528,217	\$1,118,217
Private Sector Disaster Assistance in Indonesia	Multi-Hazard	\$300,000	\$300,000
Private Sector Partnerships in India	Multi-Hazard	\$300,000	\$300,000
PROMISE	Hydromet		\$1,855,286
Psychosocial Aspects of Disasters	Health		\$106,836
School-based and Community Preparedness in the Philippines	Multi-Hazard	\$164,821	\$164,821
Volcano Disaster Assistance Project	Earthquake/Volcanoes	\$300,000	\$3,725,000
USAID/OFDA PREPAREDNESS AND MITIGATION ASSISTANCE IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC		\$4,391,526	\$50,099,336

¹ Cumulative funding includes funding for previous phases, which in some cases were implemented by partners other than current implementing partners.